

Export of textile goods

296. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite huge resources, the country is far behind in export of textile goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the main reasons for India not being able to compete with China in export of textiles goods; and

(d) whether Government has taken adequate steps to tide over the problems of textiles industry to increase its export share in global perspectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) India is the second largest exporter of textiles and apparel. During 2016-17 exports were valued at US\$ 39.7 billion.

(c) Higher textiles and apparel exports of China may be attributed to large scale of production, huge raw material base, availability of a large labour force and a highly developed and efficient logistic infrastructure.

(d) In order to increase India's competitiveness in exports, the Union Cabinet approved reforms through a special package to boost employment generation and exports in the apparel and made-ups sector in June, 2016 and December, 2016 respectively. The Scheme for Rebate of State Levies (RoSL) was announced under the Special Package to rebate the incidence of state levies on export of garments and made-ups to make exports more competitive in the global market. In addition, interest subvention is provided @ 3% per annum for pre and post shipment credit and duty drawback is provided on exports. Exports are promoted on a sustained basis under the Market Access Initiative Scheme (MAI). Textile India 2017, India's first ever mega textiles trade fair was organised in Gandhinagar from 30th June to 2nd July, 2017 to promote export and to attract investments in the textile sector.

Incentives for exporters of garments under MEIS

297. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has doubled or is planning to double the incentives for exporters of garments and made-ups under the Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) to support declining textile exports;